

SIX CONCLUDING LETTERS
 To a SENATOR,
 On the TENDENCIES of the
FOUNDLING HOSPITAL
 IN ITS
BOUNDLESS EXTENT.

PART II.

Shewing what is *Bad* in that Plan; and pointing out a new one to be substituted instead of it, or to be united to what is *Good* in it; this new one tending to make the Poor become a full Support to the Poor, and not only not Burdensome to the Public, but great Benefactors to it.

----- *Fungor vice cotis.* -----

HOR.

L O N D O N :

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F. H. throughout this Book, signifies *Foundling Hospital*.



LETTER IV.

S I R,

I N the 1st of the 3 former Letters on the *F. H.* in its present Extent, I observ'd What **FACTS** on this Subject there are *now* existing, over and above the **THEORIES** which existed at *first*,—Facts such as are so many *Exhibits* of this Hospital's Evil Tendencies in this its *enlarged* Plan for the Prevention of Evil, I mean of that One great *capital* Evil it undertook to Prevent chiefly, that of Bastard Infants being brought to præcipitate untimely Deaths,—and by that Means render'd so many instances of *Lives Lost to the Community*.—Which are so many Demonstrations that in this Kingdom this enlarged *F. H.* Plan for doing Good, does a great deal of Evil; in so much that, in that sufficient Experience we have had of it already, it does not only *not perceptibly Prevent*,—but does *perceptibly Promote*, even that one great Evil it undertook to *Prevent*,—Promotes it, *multiplies* it even to such a Degree that, in the very Conveyance of 8 Infants to this Hospital, 7 Infant-Lives out of 8, according to **LET. I**, p. 10. *Note [A]*, have been actually lost;—such *præcipitate* untimely Deaths arising, not from mere *Casualty*, but, from the *very Nature of Things* incidental to this *F. H.* Plan in its present boundless Extent, and to almost every new born Infant's Infantile Inabilities for the Hardships of Travelling in all Seasons, in all Weathers, thro' all Roads, by the usual Vehicles, to a *F. H.* so vastly remote.

B

I N

IN the same Letter too I observ'd how this same *Inlarged F. H.* Plan for doing Good, does, besides *not Preventing* but even *Promoting* that One great Evil it undertook to Prevent, tend to *Promote* social Evils infinitely *more*, and *greater*, and *more destructively* such, than that Great one it so unsuccessfully undertook to Prevent ; even *as many* More, even *as much* Greater than that One, as the Destruction of a FEW *Bastard-Infants* or even of *all* the Bastard Infants in a Kingdom, is *less* than the Destruction of *all* that Kingdom.

TO shew how the *F. H.*, in this unlimited Inlargement of it, tends to *promote* the 1st. of these More, and Greater, and more Destructive social Evils, (mentioned in Let. I. p. 9.) viz. *Illicit Carnal Incontinence*, in All the Lengths and Effects of it, — was the scope of the IId. and IIId. Letters, in the main of them both.

TO shew how the same Hospital Scheme, in the same Extent of it, equally tends to *Promote* the 2d. of those *more*, and *greater*, and *more destructive* social Evils, (mentioned in Let. I. p. 9.) viz. The *Discouragement of Matrimony*, — is the Subject of this IVth. Letter in the Main of it.

GREAT was the Clamor propagated against the Marriage Act, as tending to discourage Marriage : But it is suspected that the unlimited Extension of the *F. H.* Charity, supported annually by the Public, wil, in the long Run, prove more fatal to Conjugal Society than any thing contain'd in that Act. Into this Hospital to admit not only *many* of the Infants tender'd to it, but *all*, — And to admit them in the usual secret Manner, without the least Inquiry *from whom* or *whence* they are brought, and thereby secretly to exempt the criminal Parents of those

Bastard

Bastard Infants (*such* being here suppos'd,) from fear of Punishment or Expence on account of the Bastardy,—are Circumstances upon which Critics perhaps may be so censorious even of Dignities, as to think it seemingly a matter of Indifference to the State, whether Procreation by Marriage, or the same by Whoredom, takes place. But shou'd Hospitals be erected throughout the Kingdom on the same Plan, for *all* Infants promiscuously, Illegitimate and Legitimate,—with an Establish'd Provision for their Support by the State, and with *so many* marks of State-Favor to Illegitimates, and with *none at all* distinguishingly to Legitimates, 'tis to be fear'd those censorious people wou'd injuriously imagin that the State seemingly means to encourage Fornication in preference to Marriage, by giving to the Former such signal Marks of State Favor, without so much as an Equivalent to the Latter.

THE Law against *Bastardy*, obliging the Woman to *Filiate*, and the Man to *Maintain*, drives *Multitudes* of the Vulgar carnal transgressors into Wedlock. However averse to it One of the two Criminals may be at *first*, Yet, the intreaties—the importunities,—the tears of the young Pregnant Criminal, overcome perhaps by the most Sacred Promises, do at last frequently prevail; especially when the *Fear* of Legal Punishment, and the *Hope* of healing a wounded Reputation, become Joint Solicitors to both the two Criminal Parents strongly for a Legal Union; And of this Legal Union their *United Industry*, in favor of Themselves and of their Legal Children, is a Consequence made by their United Self-interest, and by Nature it self. But by the Extensive Plan of the *F. H.* Institution in favor of Bastards, this Salutory Law against Bastardies, which is so fruitful of

Marriages,

Marriages, and of Industry, is in Effect repealed : and there is now no necessity for the One of the two Criminals to *Filiate*, or for the other to *Maintain*. The Female one may *intreat* for Matrimony, and the Male one may *deny*,—deny, not only at Less, but at *much* Less Expense than heretofore ; not of Money *solely*, or *chiefly*, — But of *Character*.

Consequences to the Public, not only in the Loss of *Manners*, of *Sedulity*, and of *Oeconomy*, but in the GROWTH of that Loss *Daily*, are terrible ; — made still more so under the Thought (a thought returning perpetually,) of this Hospital's being wickedly branded, as I fear it wil be by Some, with this Title, [An Hospital to tempt People to expose and desert their Children,] and by Others with this, [An Hospital to *incourage* Fornication, and to *discourage* Matrimony.]

But how reverse was the Policy of the *Romans*, who taxed Cælibacy ; annexed Rewards to the *Married* ; and Privileges *peculiar* to those of *them* who had *many Children*. The Emperor *Augustus*, to revive *R O M E* to its Primitive Grandeur, when torn by Discord, Faction and Civil War ; and when the Citizens were immers'd in Carnalities,—impos'd new Penalties on those who were *not Marry'd*, and increased the Rewards both of those who were Married, and of those who had many Children. These impositions were far from being relished by numbers of the Citizens whose minds had been vitiated by Evil Habits. Which obliged the Emperor to harangue them by a Speech ; part of which was *so a propos*, and is so wel adapted to the present Situation of our Metropolis, (if we compare it with theirs, as to *Unconfugal Carnalities*, — *Declension of People*, [C]

[C] If the Number of Children Baptiz'd within the Bills of Mortality, from 1720 to 1740 ; be compared with the number Baptiz'd from 1740 to 1760 : the latter Twenty Years, will be deficient in Number to the former, above 40,000.

and the marks of that Declension, Empty Houses,) that you will pardon my transcribing it. — “ While Sickness, and War, snatch away so many Citizens, “ what must become of the City, if Marriages are no longer contracted? The “ City does not consist of *Houses*, of *Porticos*, of *Public Places*, &c, — M E N “ alone constitute a City ; you do not see *Men*, like those mentioned in Fable, “ arising out of the Earth, to take care of your Affairs. Your Celibacy is not “ owing to the Desire of living *alone* ; every one of you have both Table Com- “ panions and Bed Companions ; you only seek to enjoy your irregularities un- “ disturbed : Do you cite the Vestal Virgins in your behalf ? if you preserve “ not the Laws of Chastity, you ought to be punished, like them ; you are equally “ bad Citizens, whether your example has an Influence on the rest of the World, “ or whether it be disregarded. My only View is the Perpetuity of the Republic. “ With respect to Rewards, they are such that I do not know whether Virtue has “ ever receiv’d Greater. For a *Less* Reward wil a Thousand men expose Life it- “ self. And yet wil not *these* ingage you, (*i. e.* each of you who are young and “ single,) to take a *Wife*, and *provide for Children* ? ”

I N the Opinion of this most wise and provident Emperor, no Human Union of the 2 Sexes mimicking that of Conjugal Union with the Effects of *That*, cou’d be so likely as *that*, to produce that Social Harmony, Order, and Increase of *sound* Children, and other National good Effects which flow generally from that One Spring ;—none consequently so likely as *that One*, to produce that great Social Good which the Public were then in want of ;—since none cou’d so probably, so speedily, so salutarily, and withall so *abidingly* fill the Imperial Capital, heal its Convulsions, and give Life and Vigor to its Arms,

While *ENGLAND*, amidst all her acquisitions, has a declining People to revive, her People sinking as gradually as her Popular Vices are multiplying ; —While she has numerous Manufactories, of various kinds, to provide Hands for ;—a numerous *able* idle Poor to provide *Work* for ;—a numerous *unable* Poor to provide an honest unworking Livelihood for ;—an immense National Debt to be discharged, — a great number of Colonies *abroad* to be peopled, — a greater number of waste uncultivated Lands at *home* that want to be cultivated, and other unfruitful ones to be fructify'd,--unnavigable Rivers &c to be render'd navigable, as wel as bad Roads to be repair'd ;—While to this large Number of National Wants (which are so many Calls for more Men and Money, more Self-denials and Industries; and for the most eligible, likely innocent Means of them,) there are added the Wants of our Army and those of our Navy, each of those Articles consuming continually more and more of our *Men*, and more and more of our *Money*, and as continually calling for stil more of Both to consume ;—While all these National Wants, I say, are pleading daily, loudly, continually for National Oeconomy,—and While we read of the old Roman Virtue I mention'd, that of the State's publicly rewarding by Law Oeconomical Virtue, by annexing Rewards to the Means of it, *i. e.* to *Marriage* and the Fruits of it, in Opposition to *Sinful Incontinence* and the Fruits of *that* ;—Shou'd not that old *Roman* Virtue put our Modern *English* one to the blush, namely the English Virtue of Publicly Rewarding *Vice*, and thereby promoting the Growth of it, *i. e.* by providing so publicly, so plentifully, so attractively, as the *F. H.* in the great Plenty and great Extension of it does, for the Children of Vice, even as fast as Vice produces them, thereby encouraging all Whores to go on with their Whoredoms as fast as they can,

can, — and at same time with-holding superior Public Incouragements and Rewards from that *innocent* Carnality, the Matrimonial one ; that which, if as duly Incouraged and Rewarded as the Immatrimonial *guilty* ones are unduly so, by this *F. H.* Protection in its Licentious Extent, wou'd be the best *English* Policy, as it was the best *Roman* one, not only for *removing* those many guilty Carnalities which, even without being whetted by Rewards, are so apt to take place of the guiltless Matrimonial ones, but,—for preventing more. [D]

I N 1757, the Year in which this *F. H.*'s present licentious Extension began, (this which opens it to receive A L L *Children under 12 Months old*, let 'em be whose they wil, Legitimate or Illegitimate,) I happen'd to spend a few Months in the Metropolis: And, being myself Single, and in the Meridian of Life, I had the honor of being introduc'd to the company of about a dozen choice Spirits ; who had met on purpose to rejoice at this licentious Extension of that *F. H.* Charity,—When I found it was not their *unsettled, jocular* Thought, but their *settled resolute* Determination thereupon, Never to Marry ; but, in a less *Troublesome* and less *Expensive* manner, to obey the Command, *Increase and Multiply*.

And so many of the Populace who are young and single, are in this way of thinking, And the Number of Children for this Hospital increases by these means so much upon the Governing and Guardian Hands, that Who can wonder if they are oblig'd to apply now anew to Parliament for new Aid ? or Who wil not

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[D] Large Numbers of Children do not proceed from the intemperate Pleasures, taken loosely and at Random ; but from a Regular way of living, where the Father of the Family desires to rear up, and provide for the Offspring he shal beget. *Postleth. Dict. of Trade, &c.* Vol. II. p. 439.

wonder



wonder hereafter, if they are obliged to apply again and again to it hereafter for more and more? since the many Sinking Families, and the gradual great Declensions in the number of Legitimate Children in *London*, and the gradual great Advancements in the number of Illegitimates, are so many presumptive Proofs that the illicit carnal Intercourses of Citizens from Home increase remarkably *fast*, and that the Legal Domestic ones become thereby as remarkably *few* and *slow*.

W H A T less than a most Licentious, Lawless Loose to the Sinful Lusts of the Flesh, and to all the lengths of that Sinfulness, is expectable, if even Law it self shou'd so much as *seem* to countenance any such generating Means of such a Licentiousness?

The young Batchelor, bound to Trade by Apprenticeship,—At the End of it, when he shou'd enter upon Work for a Livelihood, seeing Others about him enjoying without any such Drudgery, not merely a Livelihood, but a Life of Affluence, of Ease, and of carnal Pleasures, in a Situation uninterrupted by the State, uninterrupted probably for such supposedly political reasons as occur in *The Fable of the Bees*;—This raises his Desires of attaining *such* a Situation in Life; — And those Desires operate, for a While, as Incitements to Business, to Assiduity, and to Oeconomy.—But from all these, and from all *such* Attentions as these, he is diverted presently by Attending to the Offers of a *F. H.*, and to the Provisions, to the Bounties it lays before *his*, and *him*;—Bounties to his Doxies,—first to One,—then to another,—afterwards to a third,—and so on,—All to be promoted by this Hospital to be so many wet Nurfes to it;—Bounties moreover to *Himself*, by its Maintenance, Education, and Care of those considerable Parts of Himself, his Children, even



even *All* of them, One by One, thus amply Provided for. — Through all which generous tempting State-Provisions, for one Bastard after another, even for All he can beget, and even as fast as he begets them, he's incited by this Hospital's Extension to beget all he can, and as fast as he can. And

When Children, Ease, and Pleasures are thus tender'd to this their Father, the Whore-Master, by this Hospital, and by the State, upon such cheap and attractive terms, no wonder if, without hæsitation, he embraces the Tender; with an eye to the Consequences which are *near* him, those of Sensuality, and with no Eye at all to the Consequences *at a distance*, those which these Attractives and Sensualities carry at the *End* of them, the Ruin of his *Morals*,—of his Trade,—and of his Family, if he has one.—While I mention the last, give me leave to observe that

By how much the *F. H.* Family *increases*, By so much in proportion, Old Family Affection, &c. thro' such Breaches made upon it by such new Connexions, wil *decrease*. And by how much Old Family-Affection, &c. shal decrease, By so much in proportion the Motives to Activity, in order to the *increase* of Commerce and Agriculture, (the 2 grand Supports of the Poor, of the Rich, and of the whole Kingdom,) are sure to *decrease*.— And the more Nurseries, &c. there are in this Hospital, (there being an immense Number) and large Salaries paid to them, the Quantity of *Industry* in the Nation wil be so much the *less*: The higher the National Expenses on these and on other *F. H.* Necessities shal *rise*, The lower the National Revenue to support them wil *sink*; — 'til by the Increase of the Former, and the Decrease of the Latter, this Monster shal have swallowed up almost *every* thing in the Kingdom which is dear and valuable.



LET.

[ 12 ]

V.

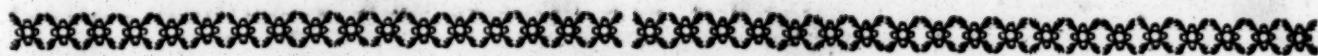
But as these Considerations fall more particularly under that III<sup>d</sup> Head I mention'd, of destructive E V I L S to which this Hospital in its present Extent has a Tendency,—What I have to offer farther is referr'd accordingly by

S I R,

Your sincere

GLASGOW, Jan. 16,  
1760.

C A T O.



## LETTER V.

S I R,

*Obj.]* **W** I L it be said that, to allege many of the destructive Injuries above-mention'd, as what really *are* or probably *may* be suffered by the Community, in Consequence of a *F. H.* in *ENGLAND*, carry'd even to such an Extent of it as has been aim'd at, must be Chymical; since the *F. H.s* abroad, particularly that in *FRANCE*, in all its Extent, and those in *Holland* and some parts of *Germany*, which are of a much earlier and longer standing, produce, for ought appears by Experience, no such injurious Consequences?

*Ans.]* I N N A T I O N S where no Law exists obliging them to maintain their Poor, and where their *Religion*, devotes many to a Life of Cælibacy



bacy, [E] as in *FRANCE*, and other Popish Countries, Hospitals, even in the Extent I oppose in ours, may be necessary. And those in *Italy* are the only National Provision made there for their Poor: and they not only admit Children, but the aged and infirm Poor in General: Yet under these circumstances in *France*, such was the Fear which the Politic *LEWIS XIV.* had of the two chief Evil State-Consequences I have mention'd, that to Arm against *both*, he thought it necessary to publish an Edict for the Promotion of Marriages: appointing particular Pensions to those who had *Ten* Children, and much larger to those who had *Twelve*. And we find *Lewis XV.* not long ago portioning out young Maids, to incourage Matrimony. And probably *ENGLAND* ere long may be reduced to the same Expedient.

Does not the Decrease of People in *France* help to prove that they feel already the Baneful Effects of their *F. H.* Establishment? And the Noble Author before quoted, the *Baron de Montesquieu*, observes upon that Decrease, that "It was NOT sufficient to reward *Prodigies* (—alluding doubtless to the Edict of

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[E] SUPPOSING the like carnal debauch'd Manners to exist in the Monasteries and other cloister'd Foundations of *FRANCE* and other Popish Countries, which did actually exist in *ours*, when Visited by order of *HEN. VIII.* previously to their Demolition, a—*F. H.* with *Such*, may be a proper Refuge for Bastard Infants; and the Secrecies annex'd to it may be a proper Screen to conceal the *un-saintlike real* Characters of their Priests, lest the Good Effects expected from their assumed *Saint-like* ones, should be obstructed;—obstructed dangerously, by shewing to the Public how the *Form of Godliness* in all its Strictnesses they see and hear Taught in the Popish Religion, is in those very Teachers of it merely a *Form*,—calculated, not to *reform* the Public, but, to *gull* them; not to *save* Souls, but, to *delude* them.

Bp. *Burnet* in his *History of the Reformation*, observes, How the carnal Dissoluteness of the Abbots and Friars shew'd itself, not only with known profess'd Harlots, but with Others, even with Marry'd Women.—And how their other Brutal Practices were of a nature so shocking as not to be fit to be spoken of, &c.

And *Speed* affirms, that the Dallying of the *Nuns* with the *Friars* in the Dark, brought forth the Fruits of Darkness: as was found, by the Great Number of *Infant Bones* discover'd in their Cells, on this Visitation.

And a judicious Writer relates that a noted Abbe in *FRANCE* was convicted not long ago of Seducing 1700 Females.

LEWIS



*LEWDIS* in favor of a Prodigious number of Children,) “but that in order to  
 “communicate a General Spirit for the Propagation and Increase of the Species,  
 “it is necessary for the *French* to Establish, like the *ROMANS*, General Re-  
 “wards, or General Penalties.”—From another sensible French Author, in his book  
 intituled *Les interets de la France Mal entendus*, quoted before, it appears, that since  
 the French Establishment of a *F. H.*, Secret Lewdness, and Open Debauchery,  
 have made such Progress in *France*, that Marriage is become *unfashionable*, and,  
 in a manner, neglected,—And that the Ladies themselves are become Advocates  
 for Fornication; And that nothing is more common than to hear them assert  
 (in favor of the Love-Sins leading to Foundling Hospitals) “That a *Surprize in*  
 “*Love is pardonable*;—that a *Single Passion is allowable*;—and that *one Gallant can*  
 “*bring no dishonor*.” A fine new Christianity this! made in *France*, doubtless by  
 their Anti-matrimonial Priests, as a fine Turnpike Road to their Foundling  
 Hospital.

*Heineccius*, in his *Univerſum Jus*, condemns all Methods of procreation by  
 Whoredom, Adultery, Fornication, &c. as Diametrically repugnant to right  
 Reason, and the Law of Nature; and adds, that “there is no other justifiable way  
 “of propagating and supplying the Human Race than by Conjugal Society.”  
 And whatever to the Contrary, in favor of *F. H.s* in the Extent I oppose, may  
 be taught by Popish Gallican Priests, what does it avail, while a Teacher superior  
 to those, a Priest and Lawgiver wiser than those, and than all Earthly ones, is an  
 Authority in support of *Heineccius*, in his Anti-Gallican Doctrine.

In



In Protestant Countries such as *Denmark*, some parts of *Germany*, *Holland*, &c. the ill Consequences of a *F. H.* are avoided, by the severity of their Laws against Fornication, and in support of Matrimony. Particularly in *Holland*, the *State* obliges the Men, under severe Penalties, to marry the Women they have so artfully,—so temptingly,—so overcomingly Seduced. And in the Forest of *Bre-gentz* in *Germany* it compels them to it, under Pain of Death. [F]

A *Foundling Hospital* there, when the Gate to it is thus strictly guarded by the Sword of Justice, may be a proper Aid to the indigent, where no other Aid, or no sufficient one, or no proper one, is provided:—and will not only prevent the *Undeserving* Many, from entering promiscuously with the *deserving* Few,—but will tend to decrease the number of the *Many*;—and withal will obstruct, if not totally prevent, the two chief Evils we fear, (*viz.*) that of *Murder*, and that of a *Desolating immatrimonial Carnality of Manners*. But from a *F. H.* in *England*, where the Gate which leads to that Hospital, is not only *unguarded* by any such Pænal Laws, but invitingly thrown open to *all*,—to the *Undeserving*, as well as to the *Deserving*; and where (since Public Penances are become obsolete, by being so easily commuted for,) its Bounty to Bastardy abrogates, in effect, the *only* Law we have against Bastardy, and in Support of Matrimony and Population,—I say, from a *F. H.* in *England*, (anticipated in its *only* Utility by SINGULAR poor Laws,)—thus unguardedly extended,—thus Powerfully aided, What less can be expected, than that its Effects upon the Community, should operate contrarily to the Effects of those Foreign Hospitals



[F] Vide Keyfler's Travels.



I have mentioned? where the Laws of the Country are self-sufficient guards against the Murder of an Infant-Bastard, by compelling the 2 guilty Authors of this Bastardy, to marry each other.

And to *Christian* Politicians, such as our *English* ones, 'twil not be a matter of *ridicule*, to allege a *Christian* argument against Foundling Hospitals, in that extravagant Extent of them wherein principally I oppose them, an argument imply'd in this *Christian* Question, *viz.* [Is it not wrong in RELIGION, as well as wrong in *Policy*, to make it the worldly interest of mankind not to Marry?] — which Question is express'd thus more strikingly, — [Is it not seemingly an Invasion of a *Divine* Right, and of the Cælestial Legislator's Divine Prerogative, to adopt a Scheme seemingly for discharging by Law Christian Parents from that Debt which the Law of *CHRIST*, as well as of Nature, obliges every such Parent to, — that of Providing for, and Educating his own Children?] ]

DOES this matter stand thus in a *religious* View? Let us here briefly consider again then, how it stands in a View *merely Political*. I say here *briefly* — because I consider this more largely elsewhere.

POLITICAL writers suppose each Marriage to produce four Children on an Average: from whence an Expence accrues to the Married Couple, of perhaps *Twenty Pounds per Annum*, which by this *F. H.* Plan the illegal Couple is exempted from; and Parental Affection being much stronger with the former than with the latter, the *Effect* of this unbounded extension wil be a Tax upon Matrimony.

WHEN a bad Father or Mother lives under the constant eye of his or her innocent legitimate young Children *at Home*, Those innocent Children, by keeping this their native Home, instead of being removed from it to a foreign one,  
that



that of a *F. H.*, wil, in a manner I am going to mention, become so many daily domestic Benefactors to every such Father or Mother,—Benefactors which wou'd be *lost* to Them if these little infantile parts of themselves were translated from Themselves at Home to a *F. H.* Abroad,—For

The IDLE Parent, by thus losing the daily Prefence of these his little infantile Selves, wou'd lose, not only the most eligible, unhired, daily growing *Assistants* to this Virtue, *Parental LABOR*,—but withal, so many visible daily *Motives* to it ;—Moreover,

The INCONTINENT Parent, by keeping with him or her at Home these little, innocent silent Monitors daily, be they ever so many, (needful to him there,) wil thereby keep so many inoffensive powerful *Restraints* daily upon this Guilt, *Parental INCONTINENCE*.—

Which MOTIVES to the *former* of these Parents,—and which RESTRAINTS, to the *latter*, wil be such Benefactions to Both, as they wou'd be deprived of, if deprived of their thus Beneficent young Children, by a *F. H.* —Beneficent they are to them while Present with them, *by the very act of being Present* ; for Parents, however IDLE or INCONTINENT *themselves* by Inclination, yet do not often Incline to contribute by Example towards their Legitimate Childrens learning to be Idle or Incontinent, —Reason, *Æconomy*, Affection, and the whole Parental Nature operating in that point by their own native Powers unitedly, and agreeably to their original native Byas, that wherein they were created after the Image of their Creator, *i. e.* with a degree of *magnetism* towards the RIGHT way ; every Parent's own uncorrupted Children, when Present, being with that Parent, methinks, stronger Byasses to the *right* way, than even Lust itself can be to the *wrong* one.

ANOTHER



ANOTHER Objection AGAINST this *F. H.* Plan, and a very important One, such as answers *abundantly* the first and *strongest* Argument FOR it, even the *Fundamental* one, is this,—an Objection too *self-sufficient* not to deserve being mention'd here apart by itself, tho' imply'd consequentially elsewhere,—an Objection which shews again this Plan's great Injuriousness, however unmeant, great *Unsavingness of Lives* to the Public; and manifests again its tendency, even to *Destroy* the Nation in *General*, by its very Means of Saving a *small part* of it; as in its tendency it *probably* (may I not say *certainly*?) sinks a MULTITUDE of Lives, by this way of preserving *possibly*, or *probably*, (nay, suppose I say *certainly*,) a FEW:—which destructive Tendency, in the *F. H.* of *France* being demonstrated, demonstrates at once, not only its great *Immorality*, its great *Cruelty*,—but withal its utmost *Impolicy*: For,

If this Plan opens the Hospital to *all* such Infants as shall be offer'd to it, even to *all* the *unlawfully* as well as to all the *lawfully* begotten ones,—And if, by this Extent of it, it does (as I think I have proved it does,) tend to countenance and *corroborate* the Two grand Hostile Obstacles to the increase of Mankind, (*viz.*) In the *first* place (for this is the *former* of those Obstacles,) The Sin whose gradual Increase thus propagated, is a gradual Murder of the *human Nature made by God, made in the Likeness of God*, namely the Sin which habituates a Man to a *daring inordinate practical Venery*, such as is the likeness of a *Brute*;—and In the *second* Place, (for this is the *latter* of those two Obstacles to the Increase of Mankind) this, which is in Quality equally, tho' not *so criminally* Hostile to the Human Nature, namely, a Determin'd, *Cowardly, timid, un-prolific Celibacy*;—Then, as by these two Arrows at once, this exten-



five Foundling Provision, strikes at, and in its tendency prevents, a necessary Increase of people in the Nation, and by Both at once consequently tends to *dispeople* it in *General* gradually, and so to *destroy* it gradually; Is not this tendency to a *certain* gradual Destruction of the whole of Mankind in the Nation by this devouring Plan, more, *abundantly* more than a Balance for the *paucity*, for the *comparatively inconsiderable* part of Mankind in the Nation that might *possibly*, or probably, (—say if you wil, *certainly*,) be saved, by this *F. H.* Plan, from Destruction?

THE great *BACON* had different notions from those of the Ladies in *France*, when, in his *New Atlantis*, he makes one of the inhabitants of an imaginary perfect State, such as was not in *EUROPE*, give an *European* a description of that *perfect* State, to the following purpose. “ Know therefore that  
 “ with *us* there are no Stews, no Dissolute Houses, no Courtesans, nor any thing  
 “ of that Kind; nay, we wonder with Detestation at *you* in *Europe* who permit  
 “ such things. We say you have put Marriage out of Office; for Marriage is or-  
 “ dain’d a Remedy for unlawful concupiscence; and *natural* Concupiscence  
 “ seemeth as a Spur to Marriage: but when *MEN* have at hand a Remedy  
 “ more agreeable to their corrupt wil, Marriage is almost expulsed. And there-  
 “ fore there are with you seen Multitudes of Men who marry not, but chuse  
 “ rather a Libertine and Impure single Life, than to be yoked in Marriage: and  
 “ many that do Marry, marry late, when the Prime and Strength of their Years is  
 “ past; and when they do marry, what is it to them but a very Bargain, wherein  
 “ is sought Alliance, or Portion, or Reputation; with *some* Desire (almost indiffe-



“ *rent*) of Issue? and not The faithful Nuptial Union of Man and Wife which  
“ was first instituted. Neither is it possible, that those who have cast away so  
“ basely so much of their Strength, shou’d greatly esteem Children (being of  
“ the same Matter) as Chaste Men do.

“ So likewise, During Marriage, Is the case much amended, as it ought to  
“ be, if those things were Tolerated only for Necessity? No: but they remain  
“ stil as a very affront to Marriage; The Haunting of those Dissolute Places,  
“ or Refort to Courtesans, are no more punished in Married Men than in  
“ Batchelors: and the Depraved custom of Change, and the Delight in me-  
“ retricious embracements make Marriage a dull Thing, and a kind of Impos-  
“ sition or Tax. Do you defend these Things as done to avoid Greater Evils,  
“ as advowtries, Deflow’ring of Virgins, Unnatural Lust, and the like? But we  
“ say this is a preposterous Wisdom; and we call it *Lot’s Offer*, who to save  
“ his Guests from abusing, offer’d his Daughters. Nay, we say farther, that  
“ there is little gain’d in this; for that the same Vices and Appetites do stil  
“ remain and abound, unlawful Lust being like a Furnace, that if you stop the  
“ Flames altogether, it wil *quench*; but if you give it vent, it wil *rage*”. The  
Flames of Lust wil not easily Quench when Opportunities so invitingly offer, and  
without Dread of Punishment, or so much as Loss of Reputation.

If in this most judicious Statesman’s Sentiments, the mere *Existence* of Cour-  
tesans and Dissolute Houses in a State, struck at the very Existence of Marriage,  
and consequently at the sound growth of that State, What wou’d have been that  
great Man’s Sentiments, what his Indignation, had he liv’d to see those very Cour-  
tesans, those many Dissolute Houses, which are so many Nurseries of Vice, in that  
flourishing.



flourishing, growing way they are in *now*; as they are now not only permitted to *exist*, but, actually countenanced,—incouraged,—provided for,—having even a public Sanction actually given to them,—to *them*, and thereby to Vice, by a national public Provision, which is made annually for the *Fruits* of Vice, *i. e.* for the Bastards produced by it in these very Nurseries, these having now another Nursery provided for them, a *F. H.* such as, in its present Extent, is always open to them, always ready to receive such as come from these, even as fast as they come.

FOR my part, I tremble for the Youth of both Sexes.—In the Age we now live in, Does this inordinate immatrimonial Lust need any *new* Whets to it? any new Exemptions, or new Privileges, to quicken the Growth of it in the *rising* Generation? Do the Sensual Appetites need a Spur to them? Do they not rather need a Bridle to them? nay, even more Bridles than all to be found in the Laws of God and Man, while the Language of both those Laws, is regarded only as Language?

BUT that these 3 prolific Topics, *Incontinence*,—*Matrimony*,—and the *F. H.*—which are the 3 main ones of the immediately preceding Letters, as well as of this,—may not swell this Letter beyond the bounds of a Letter, I now conclude the present Address, with the promise of another immediately, which will be on that other Head I mention'd, (in Let. I. p. 9.) that of *Industry*; In which Article How much the State is a Loser by the *F. H.* Gainers, will be shewn by

S I R,

Your impartial Inquirer &c.



## LETTER VI.

S I R,

I N the former Letter 'tis observ'd, how the *P. H.* in the present Extent of its Aim to do great Good by Attempting to prevent *one* great Evil, does, by several Years experience, shew 'tis merely an *Attempt*; such as apparently does, not only *not prevent* that one great Evil, the Murder of Infant-Bastards, but, *promote* it; and withall introduces and feeds a great many more Evils,—and which have much *more Destructive* Tendencies—as they lead to the Destruction, not only of Infant-Bastards, (not only of such Particles of the Kingdom,) but of the Kingdom;—to the Destruction of *this*, by these several Gradations,—namely, by their Tendencies

(Along with the Destruction of ALL Infants, *Legitimate* as well as *Illegitimate*,)

I. To the Incouragement of a general Incontinency; and to all the Destructive Evils incident to that *Incouragement*:

II. To the Abolition of Matrimony; and to all the Destructive Evils incident to that Abolition.—I now proceed to its

III<sup>d</sup>. Step towards a total National Destruction, *viz.* By its Discouraging National Industry; and so Introducing all the Destructive Evils which are incident to that Discouragement.

This



This will be shewn by shewing how it is that To draw Pauper Children from their Pauper Home and Maintenance, to the more agreeable Home and more affluent Maintenance afforded by this *F. H.*, tends to engender at the Parent's Home Parental Sloth, a Sin felt by the Community most woundingly in those 2 strong Bulwarks of the Community, *Trade and Agriculture*. This its tendency to *Sloth* is accounted for by observing how it robs poor Industrious Parents of their grand Spur to Industry, *i. e.* the Thought of *Providing by it for their Children*, — a Thought which, while these Children are *with* them at home, day after day, is thereby *fasten'd* to them more and more, growing stronger and stronger, day after day ;—But, on the contrary, In consequence of their being removed *from* them, and remov'd so *early*, even before Parental and Filial Byasses cou'd have time to take such fast Hold as they should,--And In consequence of these Children's being, not only remov'd from their Parents, from their Kindred, and from their Home, *so early*, but *kept* from them, and even from the Knowledge of them, so *constantly*, and so *long together*, in a *F. H.* at a Distance,—there adopted by Strangers, and by them estranged in their Hearts from Father and Mother, &c.—the Children's Hearts being thus alienated from their Parents, no wonder if by degrees the Parents grow proportionably alienated from *them*.

And in consequence of this latter alienation, The original Parental Spur to Parental Industry, *viz.* the Thought of *Providing by it for all their Children*, (and so, generally speaking, for all their Family,) is a Thought born down by this other, this of considering how much better they are already, one by one, *All* of them provided for by the *F. H. i. e.* by the State which supports it ;



How? By its having secured for All these Children, be they ever so many, one after another, as *fast* as they are Born, and even as *soon* as they are Born, this *F. H.*-Refuge: Which Hospital, (if they can but be safely carried to it alive,) wil receive them *universally*, thro' the present *universal* Extent of it.

Which Extent, consider'd in *One* View, seemingly tends to ease the Metropolis of a burdensome Metropolitan Poor, by an Expedient no better—than that of throwing a great part of that City-burden, more really than at first perceptibly, upon the Country; which Expedient, wil have Tendencies, such as wil be SEEN in the END, however UNSEEN *as yet*, to be much more burdensome to both City and Country, than even the Poor are *now* to them Both:—as may be shewn in that future Letter, if needful, which I have so often mention'd.

AND as this *F. H.* extensive Plan, consider'd in this *one* View last mention'd, after a great many more, is a Grievance carrying Tendencies seemingly so burdensome to both City and Country, in the Article I have just now nam'd;—So, if the same Plan be consider'd in *another* View, (not yet taken notice of,) 'twil appear how, under color of seeming to benefit those it undertakes to benefit chiefly, both in City and Country, *viz.* poor Parents and their Children,—On the contrary, in an Article the most important to both, It even wrongs Both by making them wrong each other,

For, by taking away Children from their Parents thus *early*, and *altogether*, to a *F. H.*, it *wrongfully* takes away all opportunities of these 2 Relatives doing  
*right*



*right* to each other, namely, That of paying *daily*, all those *daily* Debts, *i. e.* those Daily Relative Duties they owe by Bond to each other; a Bond which both these Branches of the Community are laid under, not merely by the *Community*, but, by *Reason* itself, by *Nature* itself, and even by *God* himself.

BUT Objections of this kind against a *F. H.*, Sir, I do but *mention*, as they occur *en passant*; forbearing to draw the readers Attention from the main point I return to, that of observing how the Argument drawn above from this *F. H.* Provision in favor, not only of Cælibacy, Whoredom, and Bastardy, but of SLOTH, tempts a poor Sedulous Mechanic, Tradesman, or Husbandman, to desert, First his Sedulity,—afterwards his Trade or his Husbandry, and at last his Family;—nay and his very Nature it self,—changing that of a regular, saving, self-denying hard Laborer, into that of an irregular, self-indulgent, carnal-minded Profligate; going out of the ways of a reputable, sober, good Workman, and of a good Husband, into the ways of a *good Fellow*. — All which latter ways while he had withall his young Children's Prefence and Demands upon him, were deem'd unmaintainable. But by these young natural Demandants being taken from him, and put under the Wings of this Hospital, These latter ways (these of a Profligate,) are made now so seemingly cheap to him and easy to maintain, that all his Time, his Money, and his Pains which he was wont to give to his Children, he gives now to his sensual Indulgences; making these consequently the Substitutes of those Children in all his regards; *these* being regarded now as his *new* Self-interests, about which he is busied in the room of the old ones he has resign'd to the *F. H.* by resigning to them those little Selves of his own;—I say *Self-interests*;

For

As



AS, in carrying on the BUSINESS of the World *without* us, if we carefully look *within* us and *scrutinize* into *ourselves*, we shal too often see Self-interest, I mean what the World does, and sometimes what it does *not*, deem so, to be, even in cases carrying *prima facie* utmost *Unselfishness*, a *leading* Principle; hidden so *latently* that without that scrutiny it wou'd escape unseen; unseen, not by Others only, but even by *Ourselves*; — in *Commerce* particularly, the Commercial Language itself being, thro' Habit, a Blind, an Impostor both to Speakers and Hearers; dignifying That as a *Virtue* in Trade, which, as Foreigners word it, is not generally the *Virtue*, but the *Policy* of an Englishman, — without which he'd have no Credit, no Trade at all, — What we call *Honor*, *Honesty*, and *Punctuality*, in Trade, being only lucrative *Selfishness* acting under those better Names; the agents themselves, while deluded by that *false* betterness, being so *habitually* deluded by it, as not to be aware of the Delusion, — I say,

A S Nature in *England*, however disguised, and unseen at first, perhaps *long together*, is FINALLY seen to be thus principled, and to operate thus in BUSINESS (seen to do it *remarkably*, and yet to do it *reputably*, in the Mercantile,) SO no wonder if in PLEASURES, this *Selfishness* of Nature is equally seen to be that which bears down vicious ones, in *Shew*, (when they wou'd otherwise shew Themselves, ) — seen likewise to turn Business itself into a PLEASURE, and into a *seemingly virtuous* one.

Thus in the poor, young, temperate, laborious Artificer, who has many young legal Children to labor for, and the prospect of more, — These being consider'd by him, as so many *Selves* of his to be provided for as such by himself, (before

this



this other Provision for them *All universally* took place, by an *universal* Public Hospital,) were, in that view, so many Spurs, and deem'd *virtuous* ones, to his Labor; and so many Preservatives to his Temperance, to his Frugality, to his Uxoriousness; and to his Pleasures in these things preferably to the Vitiously Gross carnal Pleasures of the Fornicator, the Drunkard, the Gamester, the Glutton, &c.

But since this other Provision for this his Family by the *Public*, This Poor Man of Business thinks he, even H E may *now* become a man of Pleasure, what the World calls so; and under this Thought very contentedly deserts his Business, his House, and his Wife, for his *Delilabs*.

THE indolent *Bachelor* too, in Middling Circumstances, who before was terrified from *Expensive* Vices and Pleasures by the Consideration of Children, believes he may *now* venture upon his Doxy without any such Terror.

Under which Belief and Fearlessness of such, may not the State, may not the Church, may not every thinking man, who has both Church and State and consequently his Country at heart, be afraid lest the fashionable City-Vice of keeping W——s, in open contempt of the Laws of God and Man, should prevail in the *Country*; since this Foundling Asylum is prepar'd to take off the most *expensive*, and most troublesome Part of this illicit carnal commerce? To confirm this Fear, Have we not heard in the Country of Persons in a *higher* State of Life than in the *Middle* one, persons of affluent Fortunes, who had given way to this Criminal Indulgence til stopp'd in their career by Regard to Reputation, and other prudential Selfish reasons I have mention'd? such as subsisted before



this seemingly *Establis'd* Provision for Bastardy, and for its Secresy, and for its Maintenance, subsisted.—But reasons of this kind being now removed by this new Establishment, have they not again let loose the Passions they had bridled? And in the Language of these unbridled Passions, amidst all the *Evils* produced by them, what's more common than to hear them in all Companies cry up the great *Good* of the *F. H.*?—a Good unfelt by the *Virtuous*: but felt indeed by the *Vitious*; being a Great one doubtless in the Account of all fornicating Sinners, as it loads the Public instead of the Sinners, with the main Expense of their most Expensive pleasurable Sins,—a Load laid upon the *innocent*,—Growing annually heavier and heavier, to a degree that calls aloud in all the language of Necessity for all proper Methods of rend'ring it lighter; that Growth being exhibited in the next Letter from

Your Obedient &c.



## LETTER VII.

S I R,

**F**ROM the known great Abilities and Sagacity of some of the Guardians and Governors of this *F. H.* Liberality, I am convinced that these its evil tendencies in that Extent of it which I oppose, have not escaped their Penetration. But what cou'd they do with this Hospital, when actually Built,— actually



tually Incorporated,—actually Endow'd ?—Endow'd so *liberally*,— Applauded so generally, Throng'd so encouragingly ;—Throng'd with Objects so many, and with so many Applications for *More*, that the Revenue tho' large, and tho' largely added to, Year after Year, is yet insufficient ; And, after all expected *farther* Additions to it, wil be *always* insufficient, to maintain all it *Undertakes* to maintain ; and to supply all the Necessities incident to the Latitude of that Undertaking ; the Number of those Objects, those Applications, and those Necessities increasing Yearly, not only as fast as the Supplies, but much faster.

In 1756. Application to Parliament procur'd them a grant of *Ten* £. 10,000 *Thousand Pounds*. But this being found greatly short of Enough, The Parliament was apply'd to again : Whereupon,

In 1757. An Additional Grant was procur'd from it, of *Thirty* 30,000 *Thousand Pounds* :—With a Promise of *More* :—a Promise much to be regarded by the Foundling Hospital, Foundlings &c. being presented to it, as I said, faster than Money.—Therefore on a 3d Application to Parliament,

In 1758. A 3d Supply was granted, of no less than *Forty Thousand* 40,000 *Pounds* ;—to be added to all the Old Parliamentary Grants, and to all Legacies, and other Donations, both Old and New.

In 1759. A fourth Supply was obtain'd, of *Fifty Thousand Pounds*. 50,000

Again in 1759. A fifth Supply was obtain'd, of *Five Thousand* 5,000 *Pounds more*. AND



AND the Number of Children admitted annually, almost equal to those admitted in *France*, (altho' our Poor are provided for by other Laws, and altho' we have neither Monasteries nor Nunneries,) and altho' the *unlimited Extension* of our *F. H.* and its attractive Bounty, are not fully known by the Vulgar in many distant extreme Parts of the Kingdom,—yet all will not do:—So that many poor Children, whose Country Parents or Friends, Parish Officers, &c. had been encouraged to send them to the *F. H.* in *London*, relying on their being well Educated and well Provided for there, have on the contrary, as I'm inform'd, been sent back into the Country, quite Uneducated, quite Unprovided for;—to the great Disappointment and Mortification of those Parents, &c.

And, without Inspiration, may I not take upon me to Prophecy that, If this hitherto boundless growing Scheme is not *bounded* soon, and its Progress check'd now in its *infancy*, the Sum necessary to support that Progress must in a few Years hence swell, from the Original Grant, of Ten Thousand Pounds,—to Two Hundred Thousand;

£ 200,000

—and, in a few Years more, to two Millions;

2,000,000

And still higher and higher afterwards, by new Supplies in proportion to the new Necessities added to the Old ones, attending this Hospital. And the then After-number and gradual After-increase of those Hospital-Necessities may, by the Arithmetic of well grounded Fear, be Number'd and Foreknown at present, only by what we know of their past and present progressive Growth Yearly; and of the Circumstance which, Year after Year, feeds that Growth;—a Circumstance which I have mention'd above;—such as shews that this Found-

ling



ling Hospital's Wants of a new Supply, Year after Year, are not abated, but magnify'd, every Year, by receiving it.

.. And if the Objects to be maintain'd in this Hospital thus go on Yearly to increase faster than the Fund for maintaining them, Then surely this attempt to do Good by such an *unlimited*, such a monstrous Extent of it, must, in time, become its own Obstruction, and thereby its own Overthrow. And As then this will be the Foundling Hospital's Character, So, in its present progress to it, This should be its Motto,

*Mole ruit sua.*

As to the *Good* it means, its *Over-Greatness* will be its Burden; by which, if not lessen'd, 'twil be quite born down; just as an unfearing Adventurous Insurer is by his *Over-insuring*.

*Obj.*] But what this grand Enterprize *will* be in the *End* of it, the Undertakers will say one may judge better when that End approaches nearer.

*Ans.*] This *Obj.* is answer'd by the many *natural* Evil Tendencies I *have* mention'd; and by the many I have *not*, because they are mention'd by Other Opponents.

'Tis Answer'd again, by remarking that what this Scheme *will* be in the *End* of it, is not unseen in what the Unprejudiced see in the *Beginnings* of it; Beginnings of a long standing; wherein we have these two instructors, *Observation*,



and *Fear*,—a LITTLE of *Tbat*,—MORE than a Little of *Tbis*, to inform us, How the Great *Good* Intended by this unbounded Scheme of it, wil, as I said, thro' the OVER-MAGNITUDE of that Intent, not only be *obstructed*, but destroy'd : and be, in the *End* of it, a Great *Evil* ; and in the way to that Evil, wil generate a Great many more, over and above those I have recounted ;—such as tho' *unseen*, *unfelt*, *unacknowleg'd* as yet,—wil, in a few Years hence, *Many* of them be too *near* not to be *seen*, too heavy, not to be *felt*, — too *glaring* not to be *acknowledg'd* ;—acknowledged *then*, even by the warmest present Advocates for this *F. H.* Extension. And in a few Years more, More of these Great Evils which we say this Over-Extended Plan *tends* to Effect, only in its way to the Greatest, wil be found to be *actually Effected* by it in that way ; Effected so fully, so manifestly, so convincingly even to its many present Champions, that These very Champions, to whom these Effects, being *distant*, are out of sight as yet in their *Reality*, and who therefore, thro' the Blinds of Prepossession, Zeal, Rhetoric, and Unfearings, can see none of them as yet so much as in *Theory*, wil *then* see *many* of them to be *more* than Theory, — So many of them, as to Believe that at the long Run they shall see ALL of them.

Under which Belief, when it is thus late, they will grieve that it was not *earlier*. And that the Cause tending to these many bad Effects, and to the Fears of *more* and of *worse*, may be removed, they wil Wish *then*, when it can be only a *Wish* ; its removal being Delay'd so long then, as to become then impracticable ; and become so, by means of that very Delay. For

THIS



THIS Foundling Hospital Bounty, when it has been supported *perseveringly* in this Licentious Latitude contended for, wil, in a *long* course of that Latitude and Support to it, be grown to such a monstrous height in the Attachments of The wicked Many to it, (whose carnal Pleasures it thus befriends, propagates, and supports,) And when it has lost (as it then wil have lost) its present *reputable* strength, that of a *reputable* Popularity, 'twil, in lieu of it, have acquir'd such a strong *unreputable* Mob-Popularity, and wil be grown so *Establish'd* by That,—by Time,—by *Defendit Numerus*,—by Vogue,—by mix'd Interests,—by Passions,—the Passions of all the Poor in the Kingdom,—all the Bastards in it,—all the Whores in it,—and all the Whore-mongers, among the Rich as wel as the Poor, that there wil be no such Possibility *then* of *removing* the Monster we fear, when *Establish'd*, as there is now of *preventing* such an Establishment.

BEFORE the Existence of it, Consider it duly : — not *superficially* ; tho' in its mere *superfices*, and in the very *Beginnings* of this Scheme for doing *Good*, I ask again, Sir, Do you not see *this* Brand upon it, that it is an opening to the many *Evils* I have mentioned in this Letter, and in the *præceding* ones?

VIEW the Extent of the Scheme in a manner as *inlarg'd* as the Scheme it self is in that very Extent.

VIEW the Plan *now*, as it *appears now* in this account of it, in its *Infancy*, and its Tendencies, While all the mentioned and unmentioned Grievances *Expected* from it are but *Expectances*,—Events but *likely* to come.

View



View it *now* too again, as it will appear *hereafter* in its *Maturity*,—then when most of these Grievances Expected to come from it, are actually *come*;—Then, I say, How wil these very Patrons of it, They who are *now* exerting all their Power to introduce it,—to forward it,—to *Establisb* it, How wil they *long* for the same Power to get rid of such an Establishment?—in *vain* long for it *then*! when the Resort to this Charity in All its Latitude now Contended for, and *then Establisb'd*, wil be become a thing so *customary*, and so much of *course* to All Infants whose Friends shal Apply for it, that *None* wil Apply for it then as a C H A R I T Y, but *All* as a R I G H T.—Under which notion of it, such Objects as now are or shou'd be, tender'd to it only as *Petitioners*, wil be tender'd *then*, not as *Petitioners*, but (if I may repeat my former Prophecy,) as *Demandants*.

An Establishment become thus Popular, (and thus Fortify'd,) when struck at by any such Opposition as the present one, wil, among its infinitely many *interested* Advocates, have so many Votes on its Side, and wil have arrived at such a Head, and at such Heights of assum'd Independency, as to become its *own* Support against all Opposition to it;—its own, by the long progressive Operations, and turgid overgrown Consequences of all those powerful Aids and Supports we are Granting to it, and Inlarging, Year after Year; the *F. H's* Advocates meaning to procure for it, if possible, a stil farther Inlargement; and to procure its *Perpetuity*;—Which Perpetuity, if once granted, wou'd be then Guarded and Secured to it by the many Strong Fortifications I just now named to you,—such as in process of Time, must render this Foundation *formidable*; when the *Good* Governors of it might be Succeeded by *Bad* ones,—and the Rulers, not only of that but of the Kingdom.



Kingdom, might be over-ruled by the Dregs of it ; a Case *never* to be unthought of ; *always* to be fear'd : and the very Seeds of it which are, or *may* be, are what even Kings should look upon with a *jealous* eye, while intent upon Subjects heaping Power upon Subjects,—and reading withall in the *History of England*, the Grievances of *England*, proceeding from Power thus misplaced ;—as also in the *History of Israel* the Grievances of *Israel*, accompanied with an acute Remark expressly mention'd in Scripture, not *once* only, but even *four* distinct Times, within the compass of four Chapters together, (except one,) successively, in that short History,—(which Mention of it in such 4 distinct places, shews that, in the three last of those 4, it is mention'd, not merely as matter of *History*, but, as matter of *Doctrine*,)—that Remark being worded thus, “ *In those days there was no King in Israel.*” *Judg.* xvii. 6. xviii. 1. xix. 1. xxi. 25.

That *England* may never hereafter, before the End of it at the *destructive END* of the World, be brought to those destructive circumstances of *Israel*, Let us at least *indeavour* to *prevent* in time the *destructive MEANS* of its being so, as *Preventing* is a Work much more easy than That of *Removing*.—Towards the *former* of which Works, Most parts of these 7 Letters have been busy'd principally in what Some may call a *low* Employment,—Yet, Is it not a very *needful* one?—(therefore not dropp'd, tho' known to be a very *arduous* one,)—that of *Pulling down*.—But the 8th Letter, being a *short* one, is introductory to an Employment which may be some time hereafter extravagantly *higher*, that of an Attempt (—an abundantly *more arduous* one, therefore an abundantly *humble* one.)



LET.

[ 36 ]

VIII.

—to *Build up* : a Building which wil call for abler Heads ; therefore let this Motto,

*Fungar vice Cotis,*

be the first Stone of it laid by *Your Public-Spirited* C A T O.



## LETTER VIII.

S I R,

**T**H O' my Zele *for* Charity in *General*, truly so call'd, is a Catholicism inducing me, on that very Principle, to have a great deal of Zele *a-*  
*gainst* the *F. H.* in *particular*, consider'd in its III indubitably Destructive Ten-  
dencies I have noted in *Let. I. p. 9*, and delineated afterwards, (—which III  
Branches of a National Destruction, All put together, with the National Evils  
resulting from them All, wil be, in the End, a *complete* National Destruction ;) —  
—And tho' the same Catholicism, (my very Zele *for* Charity in *General*, *truly* so  
call'd,) moreover induces me, on that very Principle, to have *no* Zele at all for  
Hospitals in *General*, as far as they carry *any* degree of a *probable* Tendency to  
make Poor people *Poorer* by making such of them *Idle* as are capable of *Labor*, in  
a commercial Nation like ours, in General supported by *Labor*, particularly in  
TRADE, MANUFACTORY, and AGRICULTURE :—Yet,

Far be it from me to censure, or not to incourage, a Scheme for such charita-  
ble Foundations as have *no such* Tendency ;—

Far be it from me not to think in the same channel with those who, in favor  
of the Poor, wish that, before those Hospitals I am censuring took place, our  
Poor Laws had been abolish'd ; and that those many Thousands upon Thousands

of



of private and public Bounties which have been expended in the exceptionable confined manner they have been, had been expended rather in this more unconfined and less exceptionable manner, this of erecting National or County Work-houses,--upon Commons, or Waste-Grounds; or where judged most proper, all things consider'd; agreeably to the late Mr. *Fielding's* Plan, or any other, if better; and under proper Powers, and Limitations; not tolerating *indiscriminate* and *secret* receptions; such as the *F. H.* tolerates, in favor of its Bastards and Legitimate Children, be the Parents of them in point of *Rank*, or *Ability*, or *Idleness*, &c. ever so unworthy of those Children's being received there.

IN these Work-houses, what cou'd take place more promisingly than the *thin* Cloth Manufactory (imitating that of *France*,) for the *Turkey* Trade, carried on with vigor? — Which imitation, notwithstanding the many Attempts which *have* been ineffectual, and the many more which have been *supposed* ineffectual, is what I can prove not only attainable, but may be easily carry'd on, and easily perfected, when properly conducted, and publicly encouraged: But *N. B.* Without such encouragement from the Public, this and every *private* attempt like this, wil soon grow Languid; and if it takes place at all, for the Public, wil presently die away into *nothing*.

IN the progress of this Manufactory, the *Puerile* Paupers wou'd be early enur'd to Labor, and, even before Manhood, wou'd be made Masters of an Art which wou'd be mutually advantageous to Them, and to the State; — and not only these *Young* Paupers, but, the *Aged* ones,—nay, even the Blind, the Lame, the Deaf and the Dumb, might be employ'd in it, and such members of Society as



at present are not only not serviceable, but greatly hurtful to it, *viz.* *F. H.* Bastards, &c. and the Whores who generate them, might thus be regenerated, and render'd as serviceable as other Paupers, to the Community, in aiding that very Community which at present aids *them*, aiding it in such a Branch of the Woollen-Manufacture as is much wanted by us,—a Manufacture, which wou'd neither *lessen*, nor *interfere* at all with, the Exportation of our *other* Branches of Manufacture;—and which, I may venture to say, wou'd fully employ All those Poor in the *English* Nation who, by the Lovers of the most real, the most substantial, the most usefully extensive Charity, shou'd be deem'd the most real Objects of it.

This wou'd corroborate the Commercial Connexion and cement the Friendship, between the King of GREAT BRITAIN's Subjects and those of the GRAND SEIGNIOR; and wou'd rob the *French* in proportion, of *their* Connexion and Friendship with the Sublime Port; Which robbery, by strengthening the *ENGLISH* Monarch, wou'd weaken the *French* one; and even distress, not his Commerce only, but his Kingdom.—Yet, it must be acknowledged that this very Distress to the *French* Nation wou'd be giving a less Stab from the *English* to the *French* than that which, (even when these two are at Peace with each other,) the *French* are perpetually giving to the *English*,—less in proportion as taking from the *French* their most beneficial *French* TRADE, in this way of doing so, wou'd be an Hostility of ours against *them*, much less than theirs against *us* by giving *us* *French* MANNERS; and thereby the *French* Disease; and *French* Reasons for that *French* thing, a Foundling Hospital.

The other good Consequences expectable from this new Plan shal be the Subject of the next Letter from

Yours &c.



## LETTER IX.

SIR,

AFTER the pains I have taken in my 7 first Letters to PULL DOWN one faulty establishment, so far as the *F. H.* would be faulty, if established in its present extension, — And after what I have proposed in the 8th Letter only in general, and in brief, as a *new* establishment, — it being a new scheme for the public good, at least a Hint which, after maturely considering it, I have mark'd out as the principal part of a new one, I therefore call it a Plan of what is humbly offer'd to be *Built upon*, in the room of what I have attempted to *Pull down*, — And after having stated in that VIIIth Letter only a *few* of the good tendencies of this new Plan, — chiefly *one*, (that one being such a one as our present war with *France* reminds us of;) —

Permit me, *Sir*, in this IXth address to point out *numerous other* good tendencies of what is propos'd in the VIIIth; — such as, jointly with the rest it will have when completed, will be infinitely more than equivalents for *all* the good ones which the champions for the *F. H.* scheme, in the place of which I wou'd substitute this, cou'd hope, or rather wish for, even from the *best* part of that Scheme, consider'd distinctly from the worst. — Concerning this its substitute, indeed the *few* good things I have mention'd, and the *many* I am going to mention, tho' not clear perhaps to all readers 'til the nature of it is open'd farther, (as it cannot be *now*, consistently with ending soon an epistolary trouble that has swel'd undesignedly



too far already,) are so sufficiently clear to my own present apprehension, that I cannot be sufficiently just to this, to the Public, and particularly to that great part of it, the Poor, without publishing at *present* what I apprehend concerning these great good tendencies; my heart being so *abundantly* intent upon them, that *out of this abundance of the heart the Pen speaketh*.

T H I S new expedient for the public good, wou'd, I'm persuaded, be a fountain of the most *diffusive* good to the public; and wou'd be so, above all other expedients, particularly to the poor, even by means of the poor, did but the tide of popularity and bounty run into this as plentifully, as it has done into our most popular hospitals, particularly the *Foundling* one. By this *new* kind of charity we shou'd then be deliver'd from all fears of being aggriev'd by any of the old ones, or by any *wrong* endowments; or by any wrong use of *right* ones.

By a right use of this *one* the necessity of *many* will be superseded.—By this not only slothful vagrancy and various other kinds of sloth, and those other mob-vices I have mention'd, but all others incident to those, which our Nation, particularly our Metropolis, suffers so much by, will be effectually banish'd: Which banishment, along with such proper statutes &c. annex'd to these national Work-houses, as senatorial wisdom can devise, will conduce, by a great many ways, to discipline the most undisciplin'd, to civilize the most unciviliz'd, and to reform the most unreform'd, the most abandon'd part, (and thereby the most useless, and worse than useless, even the most burdensome part,) of society:

T H E S E great good effects will shew themselves, not only in the country, but primarily in its capital; which from the operations of this expedient will by  
degrees



degrees acquire quite a new face ; *surprizingly* new. Those offensive city-weeds, which this large field is over-run with, wil then presently disappear ; and the most agreeable substitutes shall be seen, when you shal see such citizens as cou'd be made nothing of to the public, or to their families, or even to themselves, nay even worse than nothing before, become useful, profitable, considerable in all those regards ; become thus new in virtue of this new expedient ; an expedient which wil thus render this supreme city in *England* supreme, not only in men, bnt in *good* men, even in a quarter where *there is none that doth good, no not one.*—

This plan for reformation is the likeliest I know to make some of those lowest and worst Subjects become some of the best ; it being calculated to make such as were good for nothing before, turn out good workmen, and thereby good husbands, good parents, good patriots. It wil lead to the bettering of children, —of servants,—of whole families,—of whole parishes, in that quarter wherein they are most vitiated.—And by this its savingness of *Morals* to these Poor, in its very method of doing so, it wil naturally beget in all such poor, an habit of saving *time* :—and more over a habit of saving *Money*, when found to be acquire-able no otherwise than by their *own* hands, ( in thus employing, and thus husbanding their *time*, )—and found withall thus *sure* to be acquir'd by their own.—

And

An expedient like this, carrying such a tendency to beget even in *Most* of the Poor, not only a habit of *acquiring* money, but these 3 other good habits jointly, viz. these habitual SAVING S of their *morals*,—of their *time*, and of their *money*, when acquir'd,—and carrying moreover a tendency to beget more good ha-

bits



bits essential to these,—I say such an Expedient must tend of course to a paucity of bankrupts,—of beggars,—of highway-men and pick-pockets,—of whores, and whoremongers,—and of naughty houses to harbour them ; the number of which present grievances must sink in proportion as this new charity advances.

A N D as this new one wil have all these good tendencies to *purify* and *enrich* All other cities and towns in the kingdom, as wel as this One the greatest of all, —So by this very purity, when seen, it wil *beautify* All, this One especially, by exhibiting the *beauty* and Orderliness, the decency and *fashionableness* of industry, —the ugliness, the singularity, the infamy of any poor men's, or of any of their children's being seen squandering, gaming, idling away their time, while so *many* are husbanding it. Thus wil *shame* conduct *men* to one virtue, as it does *women* to another.

F R O M what has been said it appears how largely this new method of Charity to the poor wil contribute to better the community in one quarter of it. And when, in virtue of a generous incouragement from the public to this plan in favor of the public, all this betterness is thus visibly wrought, as above, And when all this *beauty* of it is thus remarkably exhibited, in *one* quarter, It wil then by popularity, or by worldly connexions, or by some attractive or other, diffuse it self progressively to another quarter, and thence again to another ; and gradually from *one* to *every* one ; *i. e.* to every one there are any hopes of bettering by any method whatsoever.—And when it is thus diffused thro' *every* rank of the work-

ing



*ing* Poor, it wil tend to the Rich man's better treatment of subjects found to be such benefactors to both Rich and Poor as these working Poor; and wil tend withall to such Poor's better treatment of such benefactors to them as the Rich, whose generosity gives life and growth to such an extraordinary charity.

The Plan of it, when open'd farther ( however unpresidented by other nations ) to the few who duly consider it at present, and consider withall the singularity of our situation, the singularity of our constitution, and what it is that supports and furnishes those numerous fleets of ours which protect us, and which ride triumphant over the World, appears to those few in the same light as it does to me at present, *i. e.* to be a plan which when near perfected, and consider'd then duly by *others*, wil to *many* of those others shew its excellency as clearly as it does to these few; and to *more*, if establish'd presently afterwards, wil then presently shew its singular *utility*, its singular *necessity*; shew them at last so *convincingly* to ALL, as to raise a wonder in all that it was not established sooner:—being a plan tending so manifestly, thro' all its multifarious branches, to furnish sufficient constant work for, and thus, merely by the hands of the poor, sufficient constant relief for, even all the poor in the Kingdom, men, women, and children who are able to work.—And a plan thus as beneficial to the whole kingdom by this unboundedness of its extension, as the *F. H.* plan is destructive to the whole by the unboundedness of *that*, consequently cannot but gain ground as *fast* as *that* loses it, *this* being a scheme contributing so largely to the suppression of the vices which *that* propagates,—*this* tending withall not, as *that*, to the *advancement*, but very considerably to the *fall* of Taxes,—to the increase of trade, of riches, and of



virtue, all 3 jointly,—to the decrease of law-quacks,—to the ease of magistrates,  
—to a happy age at present, and—to the pleasing prospect of a happy posterity.

Which, after this establishment, will be all so many tendencies to the glory of  
God,—of the King,—of the Senate,—and of all the other patrons of a charity so  
worthy of all,—a charity productive of such a *multiply'd* beneficence ;—carrying  
so many unlikenesses to a great many charities, and so many likenesses to Deity  
it self.

WHILE it stands thus in my opinion of it, pardon these sallies of patriotic  
Zeal for it in your friend : From whom these IX Letters are written, you observe,  
in his travels from one University to another. Which accounts for your finding  
him in the former part of this collection at GLASGOW ; in the latter at  
OXFORD.—Wheresoever he is, you know he is yours. You know too he  
is the King's, the Senate's, the whole Nation's, particularly its Capital's

Cordial wel-wisher



C A T O.

OXON. Jan. 31st 1760.



# ERRATA in

LETTER IV. Page 3. line ul.] r. remote from the places they are, many of them, sent from.  
P. 11. l. 19.] After the word [in] r. and belonging to  
LET. VI. P. 27. l. antep.] Instead of *than in the* r. *than the*  
—— P. 30. l. 3 ] After [Nunneries,] remove the latter stroke of the Pa-  
renthesis to follow *Kingdom*, in l. 5. and read thus,  
*Kingdom,) must make the ALL of the Supplies call'd for*  
*stil annually greater,—Yet*

F I N I S.



